

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DUBLIN 01153 261623Z

40

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 L-03 NSC-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-11 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03

SAJ-01 CIEP-03 OMB-01 EB-11 SIL-01 LAB-06 H-03 DRC-01

/105 W

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R 261510Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5924

INFO AMCONSUL BELFAST VIA POUCH

AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DUBLIN 1153

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV UK (NI)

SUBJ: IAN PAISLEY ON CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

FOLLOWING TRANSMITTED ON BEHALF CONGEN BELFAST: QUOTE:

1. LOYALIST UNIONIST REVEREND IAN PAISLEY MADE FOLLOWING POINTS
IN CONVERSATION WITH CONSUL GENERAL AUGUST 22:

(A) CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION WILL BE WELCOME STEP IN ENDING
CURRENT POLITICAL VACUUM NORTHERN IRELAND. BRITISH THREATS TO
WITHDRAW CANNOT BE ALLOWED PREEMPT CONVENTION DELIBERATIONS.
BRITISH APPARENTLY REALIZE WITHDRAWAL THREAT UNWISE STRATEGY
SINCE THEY NOW DELAYING RELEASE OF FINANCIAL WHITE PAPER
INTENDED DEMONSTRATE EXTENT NORTHERN IRELAND ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE
ON HMG. LABOR PARTY MAY BE MODIFYING ITS VIEWS IN LIGHT
IMPORTANCE ELEVEN VOTES MPS.

(B) CONVENTION CANNOT PRODUCE CONSTITUTION THAT WILL ACCOMMODATE
THOSE WHO WISH TO DESTROY THE COUNTRY. POWER SHARING CONCEPT
MUST BE ABANDONED AND NEW FORMULA DEVISED. FOR EXAMPLE IT
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POSSIBLE WORK OUT SYSTEM OF ROTATING CHAIRMEN FOR IMPORTANT

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES OR ESTABLISH SYSTEM ON OLD DUTCH MODEL
WHERE ONE BLOC HAS LEGISLATIVE POWER AND THE OTHER THE EXECUTIVE.

(C) SO-CALLED THIRD FORCE NOT A PRIVATE ARMY. IT DESIGNED
SOLELY FOR PROTECTION NOT INTIMIDATION. LOYALISTS CURRENTLY
ONLY REGISTERING THOSE WILLING TO SERVE NOT RPT NOT RECRUITING.
THERE NO RPT NO DANGER CIVIL WAR IN NORTHERN IRELAND SINCE COM-
MUNITIES NOT RPT NOT HOSTILE TOWARD EACH OTHER. LATEST EVENTS
IN REPUBLIC IN WHICH SOME OF MOST DANGEROUS MEN NOW FREE DEMON-
STRATE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL PROTECTIVE FORCE. PROTESTANTS WOULD
NOT RPT NOT ATTACK CATHOLIC POPULACE BUT WOULD PROBABLY "GO
AFTER" IRA. CATHOLICS INCREASINGLY DISAFFECTED FROM IRA AND
HARDSHIPS CATHOLIC POPULATION NEWRY IN ELECTRICITY STOPPAGE
HASTENING PROCESS.

(D) PRESS REPORTS THAT ULSTER WORKERS COUNCIL INTENDS CONTEST
PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS INACCURATE. THOSE CANDIDATES WILL PRESENT
THEMSELVES UNDER UUC AUSPICES.

2. PAISLEY DEMONSTRATED KEEN INTEREST IN AND SOME KNOWLEDGE OF
POLITICAL TRENDS IN UNITED STATES. HE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED
SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY PROSPECTS AS PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE. HE
EXPRESSED PUZZLEMENT OVER WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS KENNEDY
"FLIRTATION" WITH GOVERNOR WALLACE. SPICER. END QUOTE.
MOORE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSTITUTION, TEXT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, NORTHERN IRELAND, MEETINGS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, LABOR UNIONS, POLITICAL PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: martinml
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974DUBLIN01153
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740235-0818
From: DUBLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740819/aaaaappl.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinml
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <12 MAR 2003 by martinml>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IAN PAISLEY ON CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION FOLLOWING TRANSMITTED ON BEHALF CONGEN BELFAST: QUOTE
TAGS: PGOV, UK, (PAISLEY, IAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005